[39 cont.]

411 The head is made of a quadrangular piece of iron 30 to 40 centimeters long and set into the shaft with a short connective piece. The shaft is reinforced at this point by a winding of iron wire. [40] [Fig. 12 appears here.]

[41] Musical Instruments

534 [439] Large dance drums are very popular, but are not made by the !Kung themselves; they are obtained in trade from the Okawango. Once, when I purchased such a drum from a trader [422] of ostrich egg beads in the region of Kuntsas (the drum always belongs to a specific person; collective ownership of utilitarian objects is unknown among the Bushmen), he asked me to let him keep the drum until evening so that each man would be able to drum once more. The dance rattles made of fruit are no longer to be found except in very small numbers. The !Kung are also supposed to possess wooden trumpets used on special occasions. I have never seen them.

413 [304] Finally a small number of special utilitarian objects should be mentioned. In practicing their calling, the doctors use cupping glasses, made of antelope horn, and blunt little sticks to knock out 177 teeth. Poisons and medicines are now manufactured and cooked 415 in empty tin cans; in fact, tin cans and tin gasoline containers are 278 gradually becoming universal objects even among the Bushmen. 805 Messenger sticks or calendar sticks are made on special occasions; ● 211 these are little staffs or little boards with one or two rows of holes. For example, if I tell the Bushman that I will return in five months, he will draw a string through five of the holes and knot it. At each full moon, the string is drawn back one hole.

12. Social Organization

622 [614] [888] [623] Each kin group has a chief, whose position is hereditary. To be sure, his powers are insignificant because one's whole life is public, so to speak, and the authority of the old men is so great that the decisions arrived at are essentially agreements BETWEEN THE CHIEF AND THE OTHER OLD MEN.

[TEXT CONTINUES ON p. 25]

[41 cont.]

622 between the chief and the other old men. When the village chief dies, it is not his eldest son, but the eldest son of his sister [Figs. 13 and 14 appear here] who takes over the village.

582 There are certain marriage prohibitions and requirements, which are illustrated by the following schema.

[534]

Fig. 13. Dance Drum of the !Kung (Kuntsas). (Greatly reduced.)

[805]
[211]

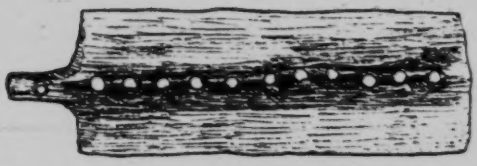

Fig. 14. Calendar Board of the !Kung (actual size [as shown in the original text]).

Father's brother X wife	Father X mother	Father's sister X husband
Brother--sister	A--sister	Cousin (male) -- cousin (female

If A is taken as an example, the children of his father's sister are his cousins. Marriage with these cousins is prohibited. On the other hand, A must marry the father's brother's daughter if she so desires. The man on his part, however, cannot force the

[67 cont.]

	Men's Speech	Women's Speech	Children's Speech
Beautiful	/hm	–	hm
Tobacco	shoró, schóli	–	só-re
Day	/gam ña	–	tai-khé
Forest	!goá	–	dain tu
Warm	//ŭ	–	túi
Road	//nắma	–	nña
Water	!gŭ	–	du

[Fig. 22-23 appears here.]

[68] The accompanying figures show the incising on messenger staffs, in other words, a kind of picture writing. Von Zastrow and Vedder, op. cit., page 430, observed in this connection:

"Anyone who does not want to go to a friendly kin group himself, but sends a messenger instead, must give this messenger a messenger staff. It is about as thick as a thumb and bears numerous signs of leaves, worms, caterpillars, pictures of human beings and animals, and other figures. The figures look almost as though they were burned in, but they are made in quite a different fashion. The peeled stick is warmed in the fire, and in the upper layer of wood thus softened the drawings are pricked point by point with an awl or a sharp thorn. When a figure is finished, one uses the core of the ero plum, which, when roasted, is black and can be used as a kind of paint, like a firm mass of fat. The black, oily color is spread over the figure and soaks into the pricked holes. The superfluous color is then wiped off with a soft piece of hide. The Bushmen claim that every friendly kin group knows the different messenger staffs of the chiefs of other friendly kin groups and that forging messenger staffs is a hopeless and impossible undertaking."

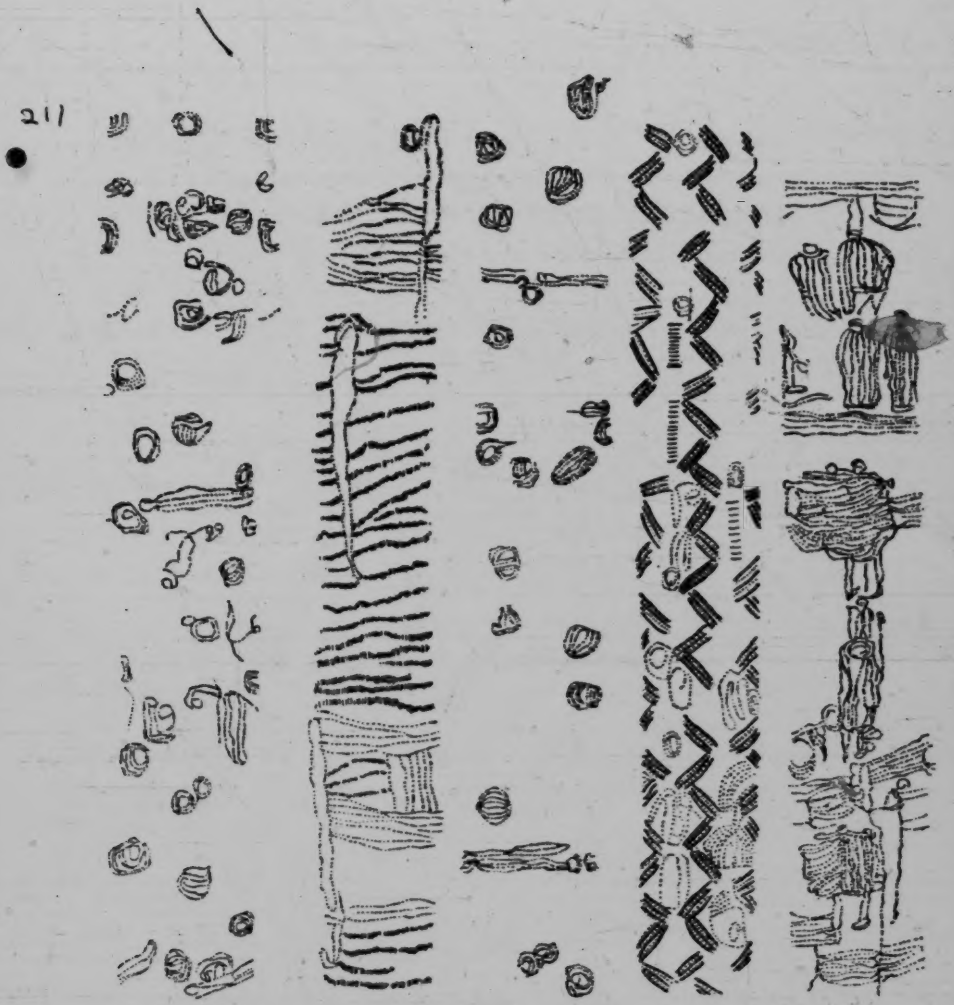

Fig. 22-23. The Incising Rolled off the Sticks of the Bushmen (Museum for Ethnology, Hamburg). Cf. also K. Weule, "Botenstäbe bei den Buschmännern. Eine südafrikanisch-australische Parallele [Messenger Staffs among the Bushmen. A South African-Australian Parallel]," Jahrbuch des Museums für Völkerkunde, Leipzig, Vol. 6, 1913-14.